Lillian & Harold Weisberg

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Mr. James Rhoads
Archivist of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rhoads,

I regret the overdue necessity of reading you a lecture on the responsibilities and obligations of public servants in a society and government such as ours, but the devious games you have been playing with me for so long leave me no alternative unless I am to abdicate my responsibilities as a citizen and a writer, which I will not do.

It is no secret that your agency finds no difficulty in responding to other requests virtually by return mail. Nine takes not less than two months if they are responded to at all. This cannot be accidental and I believe it is only because I have so persistently and effectively exposed federal shortcomings.

A long time has elapsed since my last letter on this requesting the memo of transfer on which your record is either one of intended dishonesty or another federal agency directly involved has lied to me. Whichever is the case, I am ashamed that such a condition should exist in my government, particularly when what is involved is the murder of a President and its official investigation.

In any event, I have been officially informed that you do, in fact, have the federal copy of this memo. I therefore ask for it still again. And this time I believe it is not at all presumptious to expect it by return mail.

I have already raised this matter with my Senator, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter. If you do not respond now I ask that you explain the reasons for any delay to him, Hon. Charles McC Mathias.

And if for any reason you fail to honor this quite proper request for documentary evidence it now appears you have been deliberately suppressing by the improper exercise of raw power alone, I would ask two things: an explanation that reasonable men could accept in refutation plus - and this is not the first time I make this request - all the forms and instructions I require to seek to invoke the Freedom of Information Act. On not one of the numerous occasions I have sought to use this law enacted by the Congress was yours or any other agency made any response whatsoever.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg